Amount released to Andhra Pradesh specific schemes during 1998-99 to 2000-2001

(Rs. in crore)

Name of Scheme/	Amount released					
rogramme	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
RCH Programme	28.28	41.34	38.74	25.13	32.48	27.42
RCH Sub-Projects	—	2.50	5.00	0.66*	2.40	4.18
Area Projects	1.12	4.00	40.00	—	2.50	5.00
Social Marketing of Contraceptives	—	—	1.37	—	—	1.37

* Previous year's balance with State Government.

Apathy towards Paediatric Surgery

†1420. SHRI BALKAV1BAIRAGI: Will the Minister ofHEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are only one thousand Paediatric Surgeons in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that various medical institutions have expressed their concern over the indifferent attitude of Government towards paediatric surgery in the country and on the lack of awareness among people in this regard; and

(c) if answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the effective steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) There are 22 institutions in the country conducting M. Ch. (Paefliatric Surgery) course with an annual intake of around 50 admissions. Besides, the National Board of Examinations is also conducting course in Paediatric Surgery and awarding degrees to the students trained in the accredited hospitals. There is, however, no definite information available with regard to the actual number of Paediatric Surgeons in the country as the Medical Council of India and the State Medical Councils make only one time registration of Medical Practitioners after they pass MBBS course.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. As per the Section 10 A of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 and the Regulations framed thereunder any medical institution desirous of opening a course in Paediatric surgery may do so provided they fulfil the minimum requirements laid down in the Regulations of the Medical Council of India.

Additional Grant to Jharkhand for Treatment of Cancer

1421. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister ofHEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cancer patients in the State of Jharkhand as on date;

(b) whether Government.are aware that the majority of population in this newly created State being tribal and poverty stricken, cost of treatment of cancer is beyond their reach;

(c) if so, whether Government have introduced any scheme to supplement the efforts of State Government to provide cancer treatment by providing additional grants for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the amount released this year to the State for mis purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) There is no Population Based Cancer Registry in Jharkhand. However, based on data from urban population based cancer registries functioning under the National Cancer Registry Programme of ICMR, an estimated 18,700 new cases of cancer would occur in the State of Jharkhand during the year 2001.

(b) and (c) This Ministry is running National Cancer Control Programme under which assistance is provided for spreading awareness, diagnosis, treatment, research etc. as per details given in the Statement *(See* below). In the Government Hospitals/Medical Colleges/Government supported Regional Cancer Centres, a large number of poor patients are either being treated free of cost or at nominal charges for diagnostic and therapeutic procedures involved in cancer treatment. In addition to above this Ministry has a scheme namely National Illness Assistance Fund under which financial assistance is provided to people living below the poverty line suffering from serious diseases including Cancer.

(d) During the current financial year an amount of Rs. 2.29 crores had been sanctioned to State Government of Jharkhand for Development of Oncology Wing in Rajendra Medical College, Ranchi and Patliputra Medical College, Dhanbad.